GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1049
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
WATER MANAGEMENT
SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Rain water harvesting can slak India`s thirst` appearing in the `Business Standard` dated January 11, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has seen the news-item which appeared in a section of the Press under the caption `Rainwater harvesting can slake India`s thirst`. The news-item refers to the usefulness of rain water harvesting for drinking and irrigation purposes specially in the drought prone areas. It is also refers to the public`s contribution in promoting the rain water harvesting.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to promote rain water harvesting include -

(i). Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on studies on artificialrecharge to ground water. Under the scheme, experimental studies to harvest rain water are being carried out in the States of HimachalPradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh.

(ii) Circulation of a `Manual on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water` and `Guide on Artificial Recharge` to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to harvest rain water.

(iii) Organising mass awareness programmes.